

DUCKWATER SHOSHONE TRIBE

P. O. Box 140068
Duckwater, NV 89314

February 25, 2000

RECEIVED

FEB 29 2000

Ms. Wendy R. Dixon
EIS Project Manager
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management
U. S. Department of Energy
P. O. Box 30307, M/S 010
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0307

Dear Ms. Dixon:

1 [The Duckwater Shoshone Tribe is requesting an extension to the public comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Geologic Repository for the Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel and High Level Radioactive Waste at Yucca Mountain. We are requesting an extension deadline of May 5, 2000. This extension will provide our tribal government leaders, staff and community members, additional time to address our concerns in writing.

The DEIS is extensive, extremely technical and voluminous. Our small tribe has neither the staffing nor the resources with which to address the DEIS which proposes additional risk to the lands and peoples from transporting high level radioactive waste through our homelands to a nuclear dump within Western Shoshone aboriginal territory. We must have additional time to meet with our Indigenous Peoples of the Great Basin and throughout the United States regarding the DEIS, to complete the review of the DEIS and to write and submit comments.

The Tribe must have an extension in order to submit in-depth comments. [The Duckwater Tribe has hired an environmental director. The environmental director will begin employment February 27, 2000. The environmental director will write the comments on behalf of the Tribe. Please contact Jerry Millett, Tribal Manager, regarding our request. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Henry Blackeye, Jr.
Chairman

copy: Corbin Harney